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CHUCK NOTBOHM

TOM LYTHGOE

**PROCEEDING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF MONTANA
August 19, 2008**

Present: Commissioners Lythgoe and Notbohm; Harold Stepper and Mike Hoffman, County Planners; Matt Johnson, County Attorney; Carl Purdy, IT Manager; Joe Carter, Road Supervisor; Jan Anderson, *Boulder Monitor/Jefferson County Courier*; Marga Lincoln, *Helena Independent Record*; Jason Crawford, DBEC Inc.; Dave Kirsch, Bob Marks, Jim Connole, Jack Frasier, Sherry Carlson, Caroleen Vaughan, Dennis Lay, Kelly Acree

Absent: Commissioner Weber

CALENDAR REVIEW

8/20 Elkhorn Mine Community Group – 10:00
South Campus tour by JLDC – 12:30
JLDC meeting – 2:00
Meeting with County Attorney & Judge Tucker at Hill Brothers Road – 3:00
8/21 Solid Waste board meeting – 7:00

COMMISSION REPORTS

MACo DISTRICT MEETING

Commissioner Lythgoe reported on the MACo District meeting held in White Sulphur Springs on Thursday. They looked at proposed resolutions that could be transformed into bills to come before the legislature.

SAFETY PICNIC

Commissioner Lythgoe reported on the safety picnic held on Thursday night at the county fair grounds. It was fairly well attended.

UPCOMING RSIDs

Commissioner Lythgoe reported that he and Bill Lloyd met with homeowners in Moonlight
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Ridge on Saturday regarding a possible RSID. This is the third meeting that they have had with them, and it looks pretty favorable that they will make a request to the Commission to start that process.

EXPANSION PLANS

Commissioner Lythgoe reported that they met with the architect on Monday regarding the proposed building to house the County Attorney and staff and the Commission chambers.

DEPARTMENT HEAD/ELECTED OFFICIAL MEETING

Commissioner Lythgoe reported that they held a Department Head/Elected Official meeting the previous day. They discussed changing offices to a 4-10s schedule, accident reporting procedure and the budget.

CORRESPONDENCE

An Immunization Program contract for the Health Department was presented for signature. Commissioner Lythgoe moved to authorize signature of the contract. Commissioner Notbohm seconded. The motion carried.

SUBDIVISION REVIEW

DEER RUN MINOR – REQUEST FOR ZONING VARIANCE

Harold Stepper, County Planner, noted that the Commission is now acting as a Board of Adjustment, and has before them a request for a conditional use permit. The Conditional Use Permit has been requested for property which is located in an area zoned for Commercial use. The developer is requesting the Conditional Use Permit to allow for five single family units on the property which contains 10.04 acres. The developer had previously been granted a Conditional Use Permit to have four lots, but upon further review of the parcel, decided that five lots would be more practical, as one of the lots is currently split by the road. Harold recommended that the Conditional Use Permit be granted. Commissioner Notbohm moved to grant the Conditional Use Permit. Commissioner Lythgoe seconded. The motion carried.

CEDAR HILLS VIEW MINOR – REQUEST FOR EXTENSION

Mike Hoffman, County Planner, presented a request for time extension for the Cedar Hills View minor subdivision located south of Whitehall. Mike recommended that a one year extension be granted. Commissioner Notbohm asked why they are asking for the extension. Mike stated that the developer didn't give a reason in the request. He knows that they are still waiting for installation of the approaches. Commissioner Notbohm moved to grant a one-year extension. Commissioner Lythgoe seconded. The motion carried.

SHEEP MOUNTAIN 1, 2, 3 & 4 – REQUEST FOR VARIANCE

Mike Hoffman, County Planner, presented a request for a variance for the Sheep Mountain 1, 2, 3 and 4 subdivisions, located north-west of Clancy. The developer is requesting a variance to the road curvature radius on Sheep Mountain Road, Big Horn Drive and Ramrock Road, a variance

for maximum grade, and a variance for roadway width, from 24 feet to 18 feet from the intersection of Ramrock Road and Ohio Gulch Road leading to the northern ingress/egress point of lots 1 and 2 in Sheep Mountain 1. Mike stated that site-specific features would cause a hardship for the developer. A right-of-way permit has been obtained from the BLM and the developer has notified that the BLM that they will be requesting a variance from the Commission. A stamped, engineered road design has been submitted, and the developer will have to post speed and traffic signs within the subdivision. The developer is responsible to meet the requirements of the right-of-way agreement with the BLM.

Mike recommended that the Commission grant the variance requests. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he looked at the map earlier in the day. He noted some areas with 14% grades, and asked if the variances relate to that. Mike stated that they don't specifically; the staff recommendation that has been presented to include the road network would be the 12%, not to exceed 12% positive or negative. Commissioner Notbohm asked for what distance the roads would be at 12%. Mike stated that it is 600 feet at one point, which is stair-stepped. Commissioner Lythgoe asked if the 12% can be achieved, when the map indicates that they are 14% grade. Mike stated that he can't answer that. Jason Crawford, D-BEK Engineering stated that it can. He believes that the steeper grades are on Ohio Gulch and he believes they can accomplish the 12% grade, if required. Commissioner Lythgoe asked Mike if the variances apply to that section of road also. Mike stated that they do.

Commissioner Notbohm stated that he has always been concerned with the grades on these roads. We get an opinion from the engineers and our road foreman, but he feels that the local fire department needs to be consulted too. Mike stated that he agrees wholeheartedly. He believes that in this particular case, they have done all possible to correct the grades. He noted that the fire department has recently responded to a fire in that area, and had no problems or complaints. Commissioner Notbohm noted that it was in dry conditions when they responded to the area, but he is talking about wet or icy conditions. Mike stated that it has actually improved the ingress/egress to the area.

Joe Carter, Road Supervisor, stated that he went up there on August 14th and shot a grade on two of the roads in question – Sheep Mountain and Ramrock Roads. One area was 12% and another 11%. On Ramrock, starting at the bottom he measured up 100 feet and got 9.5%, the next 100 foot was 10%, the next 100 foot was 11% and the next 100 foot was 12%. It started to taper down after that. Regarding the road that Commissioner Lythgoe is questioning, the shared road, he hasn't been up there to check the grade. He would like the opportunity to go up and check the grade. Commissioner Notbohm asked how he would feel about taking his water truck up there in icy conditions. Joe noted that Boulder Hill is bad in icy conditions; any icy road is hazardous. Commissioner Lythgoe asked Mr. Frazier what kind of mitigation is going into the subdivision. Frazier stated that mitigation has been done within the subdivision. The 14% grade on Ohio Gulch only runs for 50-60 feet. This road does have a southern exposure and the homeowners association will be maintaining the road.

Bob Marks stated that he has difficulty in understanding what the question is. He asked what the maximum grade is in county standards, and was told that it is 10%. He asked if other developers

have asked for variances to grade, and was told that they have. He asked if the fire departments have been made aware of the variance request for the steeper grade and had a chance to comment. The Commissioners were not sure. Bob stated that it would be worth considering asking for their input. He noted that the recent fire was not in the steep part, but in an area where the BLM had done some thinning. Bob went on the stated that at a previous meeting, there was some discussion about the road that would serve two lots, and a request for a steeper grade. He asked what percent grade that portion is. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that it is 14.6%, but the engineer is indicating that it is only for 50-60 feet. Bob stated that he doesn't have a problem with that, but emergency services might want to take a look at that. He can't see the sense in tearing up a bunch of country for two lots. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he thinks that Bob is right; when these requests are made, the fire departments should be consulted for their input.

Jack stated that the recent fire, the trucks did go up the steeper parts of the road, which were at 14% at that time. That part has since been taken down to 12%. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that from all reports, they have done a nice job on the roads.

Commissioner Notbohm stated that the 10% for an extended period, he has a real problem with. Commissioner Lythgoe asked Jack if he will be around for a while. Jack stated that he is headed home that weekend. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he would make a recommendation that this be put on next week's agenda. This would allow the County to get some input from emergency services. Jack stated that he is sure that they will be satisfied. He will contact the Clancy Fire Department before he leaves. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that they will take no action on Sheep Mountain at this time and it will be added to the following week's agenda.

ITEMS FOR COMMISSIONERS ACTION OR REVIEW

PUBLIC HEARING – BASIN WATER & SEWER LEVY

Commissioner Lythgoe called the public hearing to order and called for comments. Hearing no comments, he closed the public hearing.

DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON MUSEUM BOARD REQUEST TO PLACE MILL LEVY ON GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

Sherry Carlson, Museum Board chair, stated that the board has decided to request that a mill levy be placed on the ballot. This would allow for a full-time historic preservation officer/museum director, as well as fund other functions of the board. They would expand the museum hours also. They are requesting two mills, which they feel would be more than sufficient.

Commissioner Lythgoe asked if this was discussed at the meeting held the previous night, and come to a conclusion. Sherry stated that it was discussed. She is not sure if any of them are 100% convinced that they are ready to go forward with this, but her feeling is that they could do a pretty good job of getting this advertised and getting it out to county residents. They do have a pretty good following at the Museum. As far as being 100% ready, she doesn't think that they are that prepared, but they are willing to put forth their best efforts.

Commissioner Notbohm stated that he has always been supportive of the museum board and has urged them to go for a mill since he was re-elected. They declined for a while, but he tried to explain to them that if they are going to have a program that will last they have to have their own funding. Sherry stated that with this mill, they could have a full-time employee and do a lot more. With the two mills, she feels that the Museum's presence could be felt in Jefferson County as far as educational activities, tourist activities and preservation work. Commissioner Notbohm stated for that reason, he would support a mill levy on this. The county is also running a public safety mill levy, and when you get a couple items on the ballot it is somewhat iffy as to how it will come down. Commissioner Notbohm stated that the fact is that he supported that public safety mill levy, but in this case he has backed off that, and has decided not to sign the resolution because he feels that the way the money for public safety is intended isn't going to be spent, that he can't support that. Sherry stated that they discussed one mill, but they can't support a full-time employee with only one mill.

Commissioner Notbohm moved to adopt the resolution to place the museum mill levy on the ballot. Commissioner Lythgoe seconded and called for discussion. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he thinks that this is a great idea, but doesn't feel that the board is quite ready to move forward with this. Sherry interrupted to say that they are going to try very hard in the next two months to get to that point. Commissioner Lythgoe went on to say that he thinks that rather than this year, that it might be more appropriate to do it next time. Commissioner Notbohm stated that one of the reason that they were thinking of declining, is that this was the only mill levy at the time and that it would cost a lot more due to the need to add another page to the ballot. However, there have been additional items added to the ballot, so it won't cost extra at this time. Sherry stated that as far as not being ready, she thinks that the board is willing to put in some hard hours over the next months and they can be advertising. She noted that they have another Smithsonian exhibit coming up next year. Commissioner Lythgoe asked how the board members felt about this. Sherry stated that there wasn't a lot of discussion about it. Basically, they felt that they are unprepared, but don't want to wait until 2010. If other funds were available to implement the expansion, they would be willing to wait. Commissioner Notbohm stated that his concern that with budgetary constraints that the Commission might run into, they might not have enough of a budget to remain in operation. The motion failed, with Commissioner Notbohm voting aye and Commissioner Lythgoe voting nay.

Commissioner Notbohm asked if the vote would be a draw. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that the vote goes down, if it is one to one, and no third person in attendance. Commissioner Notbohm noted that he didn't sign the public safety mill resolution, and asked if that would go down. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that it wouldn't and noted that Commissioner Notbohm

seconded the motion to approve the mill levy. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he agreed, originally, before he found out what the money would be used for.

DISCUSS AND DECIDE ON STATE'S PROPOSAL FOR UPGRADING COUNTY CAMPUS NETOWRK SYSTEM

Carl Purdy, IT Manager, stated that the State of Montana is upgrading their entire SummitNet network system, which we are a part of. When we purchased the Wagner property, it needed to be added into the network. He contacted the State, which precipitated discussion of the County's

use of the State system.

We can choose to go along with the State or build our own system, but it would be much less expensive to go with the State. The State has offered us a rate that is still a bargain, and we will have to change out some of the switches, which will be about \$3,000 per switch. These can be managed from Helena, and they will provide maintenance, firewall, and surf control. Carl stated that we are looking at about \$15,000 in hardware costs and some installation cost, as well as an increase in monthly fees. He noted that we can stretch this out over a three-year period. The monthly connection fees, we will have to do one way or the other. \$550 a month is a bargain. He feels that this is a good deal. Commissioner Notbohm asked what other counties do. Carl said that they are either on SummitNet or provide their own system. Commissioner Lythgoe asked if there are several counties that are on the state system. Carl stated that if they look at other county's e-mails, if they have the "mt.gov" extension, they are on the state system.

Bob Marks stated that he knows that this stuff is expensive, but is this going to do anything to enhance moving around in the system. He gets lost sometimes in the county website. Carl stated that it would improve the speed. If he is having trouble finding information, that becomes a mechanical problem that he needs to provide better links for.

Commissioner Lythgoe moved to accept the state's proposal and sign on to what Carl has recommended. Commissioner Notbohm asked if this has been put into the budget yet. Carl stated that he isn't sure. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he would assume that Commissioner Weber put it into the budget after that meeting. He stated that as an afterthought, he knows that Bonnie was aware, because right before she went on vacation she asked about the amount of this project. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 32-3008 PROPOSING LEVY FOR SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS – BIG DIPPER RID/RMD

Commissioner Lythgoe stated that this is a result of the homeowners on Big Dipper not protesting out of the district. They chose to have their road hard surfaced. This is not a large enough amount of money to bond, so an INTERCAP loan will be obtained to pay for the district. Assessments will be \$251.38/year and \$76/year for maintenance.

Commissioner Notbohm moved to adopt Resolution 32-2008. Commissioner Lythgoe seconded. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 33-2008 RESOLUTION RELATING TO \$80,000 RURAL SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2506 BOND

Commissioner Lythgoe stated that this also has to do with the Big Dipper RSID. They call it a bond, but it is in fact and INTERCAP loan.

Commissioner Lythgoe moved to adopt Resolution 33-2008 (on file in the Clerk and Recorder's office). Commissioner Notbohm seconded. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he doesn't want to be obstructing things, but he isn't in favor of the INTERCAP loan. On the other road improvement things he realizes that you have to do that in order to do that, but this is something

that he won't be part of. Commissioner Lythgoe asked for clarification that Commissioner Notbohm won't be a part of this. Commissioner Notbohm stated that there used to be an agenda item regarding Elected Official and Department Head concerns that was taken off just before a lot of these issues came up. The reason it was taken off was because of him, so that he couldn't bring some of these concerns up to the public, because the public doesn't have a right to know. So the way to shut Commissioner Notbohm up is to take that off the agenda. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he has the opportunity to explain why he can't support this; this is the only way that they can fund this. Work has already been started on Big Dipper. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he knew that, but this has to do with the INTERCAP loan. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that this is for the RID/RMD for Big Dipper; it doesn't have anything to do with the Wagner property. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he wasn't aware of this; he hadn't seen this before today. Things don't get to his desk any more. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he hadn't seen it before today either.

The motion carried.

MEADOWLARK RIDGE MAJOR SUBDIVISION – IMPROVEMENTS AGREEMENT DETERMINATION

Commissioner Lythgoe noted that there is one more agenda item left, Meadowlark Ridge. Mike Hoffman, County Planner, stated that we have a letter of credit, but we still don't have a bid. Dennis Lay, the developer, has gone to Bullock Contracting to pick up a bid. Commissioner Notbohm asked if this won't be able to be done today. Mike stated that it has to be done today, or he will be in breach of his agreement. The County Attorney needs something to act on. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he doesn't think that they have any choice but to access that bond. Mike stated that he can't certify that the letter of credit would cover what is left to be done without a bid amount from the contractor. He stated that he thinks that there was a miscommunication between Dennis and the Planning Department. Commissioner Lythgoe asked if Dennis assumed that he just needed to turn all of the information in to the Planning Department. Mike stated that he must have. He was told by Dennis the previous evening that he would have this to us today. Commissioner Notbohm noted that the Commission has given two extensions on this already. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that they have given one. Mike said that the Commission granted one preliminary plat extension, and then granted final plat with the bonding for the improvements. The only improvement left is the chip seal on the road; all of the other improvements have been completed.

Mike read letter from Dennis Lay, which stated that due to circumstances beyond his control, they have not been able to get a tanker in to the subdivision for oil for the chip seal project. Bullock Contracting has a tanker committed to be available on the 24th of August. All of the chips are stockpiled on-site, and the work should not take more than five days to complete. He is requesting a 60-day extension to complete the project. Commissioner Lythgoe asked if he indicates what is paid for. Mike stated that the Planning Department has been able to verify what improvements have been done. Harold stated that he talked to Buster Bullock on Monday, and he indicated that all of the improvements have been paid for with the exception of the tanker and dispenser. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that his understanding in talking to Buster is that they couldn't get the oil. Harold agreed that this was the case, but that has now been taken care of.

The problem now is that they can't get the tanker. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he would suggest that the Commission remain in session until they can help Mr. Lay resolve this problem, and said that he is sorry that we aren't able to deal with it right at this minute. He feels that it is the responsibility of the Commission to be responsive to its constituents. He said that he got the feeling when he called Dennis that he just thought that he just needed to bring the items to the Planning Department, rather than coming to this meeting.

Commissioner Lythgoe stated that they will recess until Denny comes back with something from Bullock. He doesn't think that it is going to take \$200,000 to do that job, and he has a letter of credit to do that. They almost could act on it now. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that when he talked to Dennis about this, he said that if Dennis was going to offer another letter of credit, it would have to extend into next year. Mike stated that it expires November 1. Mike stated that they could note that the original quote for all of the improvements was \$312,457.03. Commissioner Notbohm stated that the County could cash that bond and hold that portion of it. If it ends up being cheaper, they could refund the money. He doesn't have a problem doing it that way.

Harold stated that in talking with Dennis on Monday, he indicated that he did not want the bond cashed, because it has bearing on his ability to get further credit for other projects. If this gets cashed, it could have ramifications on things down the road. If he can get us a bid sheet from Bullock, then we can act on this, and then fill in the figures on this to bring to the Commissioners. He would feel a little more comfortable after seeing the bid that they have a bond for one and a half times the cost. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that if you cash in a bond, it does affect your ability to be bonded in the future. He can understand Dennis' concern.

Harold stated that we now have a request for a two-month extension, a letter of credit in the amount of \$218,790 and a cost estimate from Bullock Contracting for \$145,000 to completely finish the project. Commissioner Notbohm asked what would happen if for some reason the work can't be done. Harold stated that they would have to address that prior to November 1. If they get the dispenser in the 24th of this month, it will only take five or six days to get the work done. They could easily complete the work during this construction season.

Dennis Lay stated that due to circumstances that he has not been able to control, he has not been able to get a tanker in with the oil for the chip seal. He was told that it would be here August 8th, and is now being told August 25th. Commissioner Notbohm noted that the contractor is supposed to set this up. Dennis stated that this is correct, and he has been trying to. The work season has been so busy that he hasn't been able to get a tanker away from the tanker company. He has already paid \$85,000 for the oil; it is sitting in Great Falls, he just hasn't been able to get a tanker to haul it here. He hasn't been able to control that.

Commissioner Lythgoe moved to grant an extension for Meadowlark Ridge Major Subdivision, on the letter of credit until November 1, to get the chip seal completed. Harold stated that he might suggest that don't make November 1, but October 15. Commissioner Lythgoe amended his motion to change the date from November 1 to October 15. Commissioner Notbohm seconded. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he would like to say that we have a bond and he

understands that Dennis doesn't want us to cash. He just wants to make sure that the County doesn't bite any of this off. That we don't end up responsible. The fact of the matter is that when they released him from that bond, we bought into this project lock, stock and barrel. Dennis stated that everything they have done up there was done with quality, and he can't see that this will be any different. He doesn't understand the concern. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that Commissioner Notbohm is just worried that it won't get done by October 15th. Commissioner Notbohm stated that things happen. Dennis said that he understands this, but all he can do is all that he can do. He has gone this far and has done everything within his power to make this work. Commissioner Notbohm stated that it is the contractor's fault and problem. Dennis said that he can put fault where you want, but the fact is that they couldn't get the truck. Commissioner Notbohm stated that evidently he failed to get on schedule, because the people that do the deliveries have been really prompt with us throughout the years; you get on the schedule and your oil is there. Dennis stated that never having chip sealed a road before, he was unaware of these things. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he would like to see a way to rebond this if it comes to the fact that this is going to be carried into next year. He doesn't want to see this go into next year. Commissioner Notbohm asked what assurances the letter of credit gives them. Dennis stated that it gives the County one and a half time the amount to do the project, if he doesn't get the work done. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he doesn't have any problem with Dennis; he just wants to make sure that the County is covered. Dennis stated that he understands this.

The motion carried.

Dennis stated that he would like to apologize for not having this to the Commission at the beginning of the meeting. He misunderstood that he was on the agenda; he thought that he just needed to get the information in to the Planning Department.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob stated that some agenda items have regarded mill levies. He doesn't feel that the county has done a very good job of explaining to the public what these levies do. He noted the Health Board levy and the Sanitarian. He asked how the Sanitarian was funded in the past. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that money came from the general fund, as well as from fees her office collects. Bob stated that it was misleading that all of the money wasn't for public health, but was to relieve the strain on the general fund. Commissioner Notbohm stated that money would come back into the general fund.

Bob asked if the resolution for the public safety mill has been adopted. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that it has been. Bob asked if the money will be used exclusively for public safety, and allow some money to go back into the general fund. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that the sheriff is funded out of the general fund, PILT, grants, etc. All of the monies generated from the mill levy, if successful, will be used exclusively for public safety, but as a result of those monies providing for a portion of the sheriff's budget, it will free up some monies to come back to the general fund to fund other programs. Bob stated that, in effect, it will increase the amount of

general fund money. He stated that he thinks that it is important to point that out to people; to him it looked a little devious. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that all of the monies from the mill levy will go to the sheriff office, but it will free up some other funds, such as PILT, that can be used for other departments. Commissioner Notbohm said that it will be quite a good deal of money that will come back to the general fund. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he is not sure if that is true or not; it will just depend on what is happening from year to year. In the Sheriff's office, it will fund an additional person, equipment, and other functions.

Commissioner Notbohm stated that the reason he wouldn't sign the resolution, is that he thought about what they were doing, and this is not telling the general public what we intend to do with that money. It is going to the Sheriff's office, every dime of it, because it has to. But it frees up all that other money to come back in to help the budget, the general fund. The other thing that the public needs to know, when all this was said and done, we had no meetings with Department Heads after the initial meetings. He wasn't invited to any, anyway. It was done behind closed doors. He stated that he doesn't think that Commissioner Weber was involved either; Commissioner Lythgoe did all of the final touches to the budget. That isn't the way it is supposed to be; those are supposed to be public meetings. Commissioner Notbohm stated that he also has a problem with the amount of metal mines funds that will be used to shore up shortfalls in the budget. When all this started, we were maybe 20 mills short on budget, but by what they did and promises made to the Sheriff and others, evidently, that is how we are going to derive the budget this year. It wasn't done by a Commission of three; it was done by a Commissioner of one. He has a problem with a budget done that way. Bob asked what is happening with the mill value. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that the mill value went up by a little over \$4,000.

Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he isn't going to get into a verbal contest with Commissioner Notbohm about this issue, but he will say that when Bonnie came to him, when Commissioner Weber was out sick, after all of the departments had turned in their budgets, they had used all of the PILT and were about \$137,000 short of being able to balance the budget. As vice-chair, he went out to the departments and discussed potential budget cuts. This is usually the Chairman's responsibility, but he was out sick, so it fell to him. No decisions were made. Those recommendations were brought to a meeting with all three Commissioners and Bonnie, and made some additional cuts and recommendations were discussed as to how to develop a bit of a reserve. The budget was balanced, but they also wanted to have something in reserve. They came up with ways to do that. All three Commissioners and Bonnie discussed it, and before Bonnie went on vacation, she gave each of the Commissioners an amended budget that showed \$347,000 in PILT in reserve for emergencies if we need it. No decisions have been made, these are all recommendations; they won't even vote on the budget until September. Nothing illegal was done, nothing was done behind closed doors, and nothing was done that was inappropriate. He would have to disagree with Commissioner Notbohm when it comes to this. Commissioner Notbohm stated that this is not the way it was done, it was done behind closed doors, because Craig and Commissioner Lythgoe were in his office with the door shut. When they have a problem, the Commission is supposed to get together and visit with those that will make a difference in the budget, and the ones that they have to deal with are the ones that are facing cuts. That didn't take place. He knew what was going on, but it was done kind of sneakily. The first

time that he heard about it was when they had the meeting with Bonnie. If that isn't behind closed doors, he doesn't know what is. They didn't follow any sort of agenda. They are supposed to run this place as a Commission of three so that they all represent their districts. It can't be one Commissioner, one district calling the shots here. And, he can tell a lot of the things about the money that is real questionable.

Bob stated that it seems to him that it might be better in the future, if you need more general fund money, just do a general fund mill levy. Commissioner Lythgoe and Commissioner Notbohm both stated that it won't pass. It seems to him that the straightforward thing to do is to explain the position; people understand that.

Commissioner Notbohm moved to adjourn. Commissioner Lythgoe seconded. The motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED

ATTEST:

BONNIE RAMEY
CLERK AND RECORDER

KEN WEBER, CHAIR

TOMAS E. LYTHGOE, COMMISSIONER

CHUCK NOTBOHM, COMMISSIONER